

## **City of Council Bluffs Flood Evacuation Plan Summary**

This notification and evacuation plan summary is intended to inform citizens who may potentially be impacted by flooding in the event of failure of a levee or flood protection system of how the alerts will be disseminated and give examples of the emergency notification messages they will hear through various means of communication.

The plan summary is not meant to be a detailed evacuation plan for each individual or area due to the fact that so many variables with locations, inundation flow from a leak or breach, future road closures and time frame for warnings impact the decision on where an area is evacuated to.

The City plan takes into account the ability of residents to self evacuate. Resources will not be available to move and direct each and every resident individually and as the City has been doing through the planning stages, we encourage you to have a plan in place to protect and move you, your family and your property.

During the current flood event there is a possibility that a levee or flood protection system failure could require a portion of the western and southern parts of Council Bluffs to be evacuated. The following evacuation plan summary is intended to provide notification and evacuation messages to all affected residents and businesses utilizing all communication avenues.

### **Alert Levels:**

- Level 1:** An unusual or slowly developing event that may impact a levee system or a flood protection system.
- Level 2:** A flood control protection system component or levee is failing or failure may rapidly occur.
- Level 3:** Imminent failure of a flood protection system or levee or a failure is in progress

### **How Messages Will Be Communicated:**

The 911 Communications Center will deliver area advisory and warning messages utilizing the Code Red Emergency Alerting System. EAS (Emergency Alert system) broadcasts will be activated and broadcast through the National Weather Service system and medic outlets.

The tornado warning sirens will be activated in affected areas for Level 3 evacuations.

## **Emergency Messages:**

### **Level 1 Message:**

A slowly developing floor event is occurring in the area. An evacuation order is not being issued at this time. The City recommends that you make preparations to leave the area. You will be notified in the event that the situation escalates. If you are unable to leave the areas on your own call (712) 328-4672.

Do not call 911 unless it is an emergency.

### **Level 2 Message:**

A flood protection system failure in the area is happening; please leave the area. Please report to the Processing Center at Iowa Western Community College (unless a different site is advised). Your primary evacuation route is (to be announced) and your secondary evacuation route is (to be announced). If you are unable to leave on your own, call (712)-328-4672. Do not call 911 unless it is an emergency.

### **Level 3 Message:**

Dangerous flooding is affecting your area now. You need to immediately evacuate the area. Please report to the processing Center located at Iowa Western Community College (unless a different site is advised). Your primary evacuation route is (to be announced) and your secondary evacuation route is (to be announced). If you are unable to leave on your own, call 328-4672. Do not call 911 unless it is an emergency.

Reception of Evacuees and Shelter will be managed by the Loess Hills Red Cross Chapter. Buildings at Iowa Western Community College and other faculties in the area will be set up by the Red Cross to assist evacuees with a reception center. Shelters will be established and announced by the Red Cross. Evacuees will not be sheltered at IWCC.

The Red Cross plan is planning for up to 10,000 residents seeking shelter and assistance during a catastrophic levee failure or overtopping. These centers will be opened in conjunction with an evacuation alert.

## **Evacuation Routes and Traffic Control:**

The Council Bluffs Police will initiate an evacuation traffic control plan in the event of a Level 2 or 3 warning. The plan has predetermined evacuation routes moving effected public away from the areas of concern.

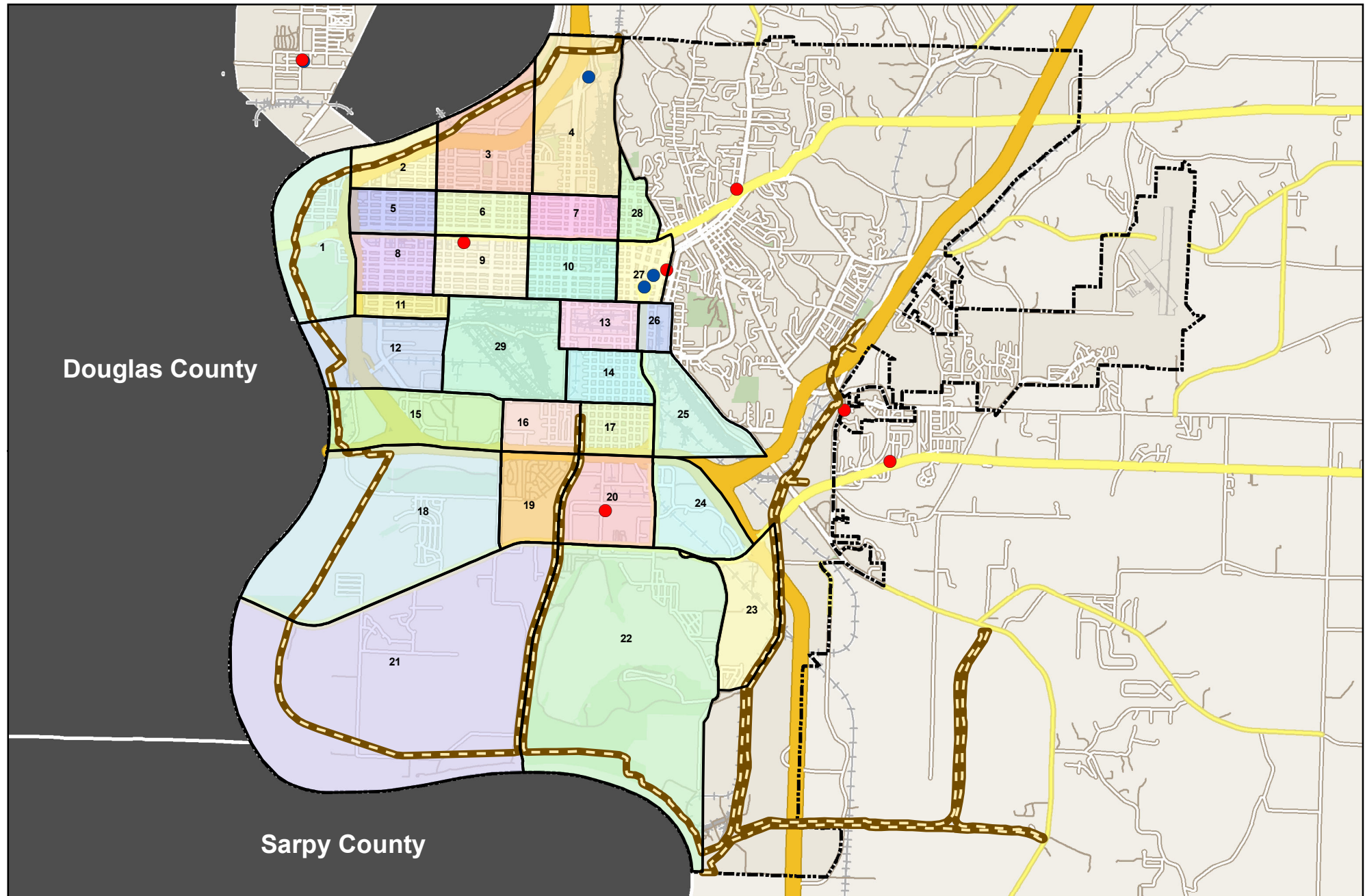
**Transportation:**

A transportation plan will go into effect and will assist evacuation of those with special needs. Buses and other transportation vehicles are on call for flood emergencies and will be placed in the affected areas which will be announced in the emergency messages.

Requests for evacuation transportation should be made to the flood hotline at (712-328-4672). You may pre-register if you have special needs related to your evacuation by calling (712-328-4672). We are asking the people who need help evacuating to limit their personal belongings to one bag and two pets.

Evacuees should limit themselves to one bag of belongings per person.

Pets must be leashed or in a per carrier/portable kennel.



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2015-6-30  
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Map Published: June 9, 2015  
Source: Potawatamie GIS, DOT, IDNR, USACE, City of Council Bluffs

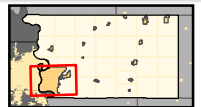


1 in = 6,625 feet

Levee

Fire Stations

Police Stations



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